

War in Iraq

I have long opposed the war in Iraq. From the onset, I felt there would be grave consequences should the United States unilaterally attack Iraq, without the backing of any international coalitions, without clear evidence that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction and without the support of even our closest allies. On October 10, 2002, I voted against authorizing the use of military force against Iraq (P.L. 107-243).

9/10/07 - Larson Responds to
Petraeus Testimony on Iraq

7/12/07 - Rep.
Larson Urges Republican Colleagues to Vote Their Conscience, Stand Up to the
President & Support Our Troops

9/7/02
- More Preparation and Approvals Needed Before Going to War with Iraq
(Journal Inquirer)

9/12/02
- Statement of Congressman Larson in Reaction to President Bush's Speech to
the United Nations

10/9/02
- House Rules Committee to Allow Vote on Larson Alternative Resolution on
Iraq

10/9/02
- Statement of Congressman Larson during House floor debate on H.J. Res. 114

10/11/02
- Congress Gives Bush War Powers (Hartford Courant)

Doctrine of Preemption and Unilateralism

I have openly disagreed with the Administration's failed policies of preemption and unilateralism that have placed us in the quagmire we are currently experiencing in Iraq. The Bush Doctrine of preemption and unilateralism is a radical and unacceptable shift in U.S. foreign policy. [Read more](#)

[youtube= http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0HA_WN-N3JU]

On March 20, Congressman Larson testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on legislation he introduced to reverse the Bush Doctrine of preemption and unilateralism, reestablish diplomacy and refocus our energy and resources on Afghanistan. You can read a copy of the testimony [here](#) and learn more about the bill [here](#).

3/20/07

- Congressman Larson Testifies to Foreign Affairs Committee on Bill to Address Situation in Iraq

3/1/07

- Congressman John B. Larson Introduces Iraq Bill

Iraq Funding

This ill conceived war has cost our nation over \$400 billion and has left a footprint on our budget that our children's children will pay for. I strongly believe any further funding for Iraq must require accountability for the Bush Administration and benchmarks for the Iraqis. Separating the war from the warriors, this Congress must maintain our commitment to the men and women serving in Iraq and also clearly demand responsibility from the President and the Iraqis.

Larson Offers
Amendments to Iraq Supplemental Appropriations Bill

5/24/07

- CT Delegation Demands Accountability on Iraq

5/11/07

- No More Blank Checks Mr. President

5/1/07 -

Larson Statement on Bush Veto on Iraq Accountability Act

4/25/07

- Rep. Larson: Bush's Hubris and Arrogance Stand in the Way of Doing the Right Thing

3/23/07

- Rep. Larson: 'Today We Voted to End the War'

3/16/07

- Congressman John B. Larson Statement on the 4th Anniversary of War in Iraq

Protective Body Armor

In

2003, Penne Palifka of East Hartford shared at a public forum on Iraq that her son serving in Iraq had not been given the most effective body armor that American troops were supposed to have. Worried for her son's safety, she used her own money to buy her son body armor.

Equipment

shortages and delays by the Department of Defense jeopardize the safety of the troops. These brave men and women in our military deserve the best, most up-to-date protective gear. In response to parent's and family members like Mrs. Palifka who spent their own money to buy adequate protective body armor for deployed troops, I introduced legislation (H.R. 3615) that would reimburse them. This bill established a program to reimburse members of the Armed Forces for the cost of body armor that they purchased for themselves or was purchased for them on their behalf.

This legislation was included in the National Defense Authorization bill for Fiscal year 2005 (H.R. 4200).

10/5/05

- Congressman Larson Announces DOD Release of Long-Awaited Reimbursement Policy for Troop Body Armor

8/16/05 -

Larson Demands Investigation Into Delays of Body Armor for U.S. Troops

5/12/04

- Larson Amendment to Reimburse Troops, Families for Body Armor Purchases Passes House Armed Services Committee

11/24/03 -

Larson Introduces Legislation to Reimburse Military Families and Troops for Body Armor Purchases

Amnesty for Iraqi Insurgents

As the Iraqi Government moves forward with their reconciliation plan, it is vital that Congress send a clear and unequivocal message that United States opposes amnesty for those who have killed Americans. [Read more](#)

7/26/06

- Larson: Iraqi Prime Minister Failed to Address America's Concerns

7/21/06

- Larson: U.S. Must Stand with Iraqi Prime Minister's Opposition to Insurgent Amnesty

6/26/06

- Larson Urges President to Oppose Amnesty for Iraqi Insurgents

6/26/06

- Larson Demands Vote on Iraq Amnesty Bill

6/21/06

- Larson Opposes Amnesty for Iraqi Insurgents